

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 VO-05 CA-01 INSE-00 HA-05 L-03 H-01
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 /050 W
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R 051142Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0434
INFO AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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ROME FOR EMBASSY AND INS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SHUM, PINT, RO
SUBJECT: PASSPORT SEEKERS STAGE BRIEF DEMONSTRATION

1. GROUP OF THREE INDIVIDUALS, TEOHARI AND MARLENE-MARIE ALEXANDRESCU AND IOAN MIHAI GANEA, STAGED SUBDUED DEMONSTRATION FOR RIGHT TO EMIGRATE ON AFTERNOON OF JULY 3. ALEXANDRESCU (FRIEND OF FORMER AMBASSADOR BARNES) HAD PREVIOUSLY INFORMED DCM THAT HE AND WIFE WERE GIVING AUTHORITIES TWO WEEKS TO ACT ON THEIR REPEATED REQUESTS TO EMIGRATE (TO FRANCE) AND WOULD DEMONSTRATE IF NOT SATISFIED. RFE INFORMED AND HAD BROADCAST DEADLINE, BUT WITHOUT SPECIFICS OF TIME AND PLACE. WHEN 2 JULY DEADLINE PASSED WITHOUT RESULTS, THEY NOTIFIED AUTHORITIES (AND EMBASSY) FOLLOWING MORNING THAT THEY WOULD DEMONSTRATE IN FRONT OF CAFE TURIST ON BUSY PIATA ROMANA AT 5:00 P.M.

2. POLITICAL OFFICER (AND BRIEFLY, OBSERVER FROM FRENCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EMBASSY) WERE PRESENT WHEN THREE BEGAN TO PACE SLOWLY BACK AND FORTH OVER 15-YARD AREA IN FRONT OF CAFE WITH SMALL SANDWICH BOARDS DEMANDING RESPECT FOR HELSINKI ACCORDS AND RELEVANT ROMANIAN DECREES AND RIGHT OF MRS. ALEXANDRESCU, AS FRENCH NATIONAL, TO BE UNITED WITH FAMILY. AFTER SIX MINUTES, POLICE APPEARED ON SCENE AND TRIO WAS SHORTLY THEREAFTER DRIVEN AWAY IN POLICE VEHICLE.

THERE WAS NO ABUSE OF VIOLENCE REQUIRED OR USED. TRIO WERE ACCUSED OF "DISTURBING THE PUBLIC ORDER AND CREATING ANARCHY" AND SENTENCED JULY 4: TWO MEN TO A MONTH IN JAIL AND MRS. ALEXANDRESCU WAS RELEASED PENDING DECISION ON COUPLES' APPEAL, WHICH IS TO BE REACHED JULY 5. MRS. GANEA (RECOVERING FROM OPERATION ON LEG) INFORMED US THAT TREATMENT HAS BEEN VERY MILD AND POLITE THROUGHOUT AND THAT MEN WERE TOLD THEY MIGHT NOT SERVE FULL PERIOD AND MIGHT EMERGE FROM JAIL WITH "SOMETHING IN THEIR HANDS" (PRESUMABLY PASSPORTS). COUPLES ARE THUS AGAIN MILDLY OPTIMISTIC.

3. AS STATED, ALEXANDRESCUS (VETERINARIAN AND HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER) SEEK TO IMMIGRATE TO FRANCE AND ARE NOT REGISTERED WITH OUR CONSULAR SECTION. GANEAS (ASTRO-PHYSICIST AND BIO-PHYSICIST) REQUESTED ROMANIAN PPT APPLICATION FORMS IN APRIL, 1977 AND FIRST VISITED CONSULAR SECTION IN JUNE, 1977 AFTER AUTHORITIES HAD TOLD THEM TO ABANDON THEIR REQUEST. THEY SUBSEQUENTLY VISITED CONSULAR SECTION IN APRIL AND JUNE OF THIS YEAR. NEITHER HAS RELATIVES IN U.S. AND MRS. GANEA WOULD REQUIRE RELIEF FROM INELIGIBILITY UNDER SECTION 212 (A)(28) FOR HANDLING THROUGH TCP.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO FORECAST OUT-COME FOR GANEAS AND ALEXANDRESCUS, WE TOO ARE MILDLY OPTIMISTIC. GOR IS PARTICULARLY LOATH TO LOSE SUCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TRAINED PROFESSIONALS (NONE HAS SO FAR LOST JOB) WITHOUT STRUGGLE, BUT SEEMS EQUALLY LOATH AT PRESENT TO RESORT TO MEASURES STRONG ENOUGH TO DISCOURAGE THE DETERMINED AND TENACIOUS. WORKING LEVEL FUNCTIONARIES ARE PROBABLY NOT CERTAIN THEMSELVES OF HOW THESE CASES WILL ULTIMATELY BE RESOLVED, BUT THEIR COMMENT TO ARRESTED TRIO IS PROBABLY INDICATIVE OF THE ODDS IN AD HOC INDIVIDUAL DECISIONS DURING CURRENT PERIOD OF OFFICIAL RESTRAINT. AGGREY

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